

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BRUSSE 08836 081959Z

ACTION OIC-02

INFO OCT-01 ARA-14 EUR-12 EA-12 IO-14 ISO-00 CTME-00

L-03 AF-10 NEA-11 AGRE-00 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00

DODE-00 EB-08 FRB-01 H-02 INR-10 INT-05 LAB-04

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 AID-05 SS-15 STR-07 ITC-01

TRSE-00 ICA-20 SP-02 SOE-02 OMB-01 DOE-15 /185 W

-----044821 082249Z /70

R 081955Z MAY 78

FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6436

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MEXICO

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

USMISSION GENEVA

UNCLAS BRUSSELS 08836

GENEVA ALSO FOR MTN; DEPARTMENT FOR IO/OIC

PASS US CUSTOMS FOR COMMISSIONER FROM

USDEL D.P. BANOWETZ

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, CCC, OCON, BE

SUBJECT: CUSTOMS COOPERATION COUNCIL: 99TH/100TH SESSIONS
OF PERMANENT TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

1. 99TH/100TH SESSIONS PERMANENT TECHNICAL COMMITTEE
(PTC) OF CUSTOMS COOPERATION COUNCIL HELD AT COUNCIL HEAD-
QUARTERS, BRUSSELS, MAY 1- 5, 1978, UNDER CHAIRMANSHIP
J. CULLEN (IRELAND), WITH DELEGATIONS FROM 47 MEMBER
COUNTRIES AND OBSERVERS FROM CUBA AND 12 INTERNATIONAL
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PAGE 02 BRUSSE 08836 081959Z

ORGANIZATIONS INCLUDING EC, ICC AND INTERPOL. FOLLOWING
SIGNIFICANT ACTIONS TAKEN ON AGENDA ITEMS.

2. PTC COMPLETED WORK ON AND WILL RECOMMEND TO COUNCIL
FOR ADOPTION AT JUNE PLENARY OF THREE ADDITIONAL ANNEXES
TO INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION ON SIMPLIFICATION AND
HARMONIZATION OF CUSTOMS PROCEDURES: ANNEX CONCERNING RE-

LIEF FROM IMPORT DUTIES AND TAXES FOR GOODS DECLARED FOR HOME USE, ANNEX CONCERNING CUSTOMS FORMALITIES APPLICABLE TO COMMERCIAL MEANS OF TRANSPORT, AND ANNEX CONCERNING INFORMATION SUPPLIED BY THE CUSTOMS AUTHORITIES. LATTER ANNEX CONTAINS PROVISION REQUIRING CUSTOMS AUTHORITIES UPON REQUEST TO SUPPLY INFORMATION SHOWING HOW THE VALUE FOR CUSTOMS PURPOSES HAS BEEN CALCULATED (UNDERSTAND GATT INTEREST IN THIS ITEM).

3. IN EXTENDED DEBATE ON REVISION OF PTC RULES OF PROCEDURE, LARGE MAJORITY CLEARLY BELIEVED RULES NEEDED TO BE CHANGED AND THAT RULE 20 GOVERNING AMENDMENT OF RULES THEMSELVES HAD TO BE CHANGED FIRST. PRESENT RULE REQUIRED APPROVAL OF TWO-THIRD'S OF ENTIRE MEMBERSHIP. PROPOSED BY JAPAN TO REQUIRE TWO-THIRD'S OF THOSE PRESENT AND ENTITLED TO VOTE TO CAST AN AFFIRMATIVE VOTE SUPPORTED 34 (U.S.) - 7. PROPOSED CHANGE WILL BE SUBJECT OF POSTAL BALLOT AND WILL REQUIRE 55 POSITIVE RESPONSES TO CARRY UNDER PRESENT RULES.

4. IF PROPOSED CHANGE IN RULE 20 IS SUCCESSFUL, PTC WILL THEN CONSIDER AMENDMENT OF RULE 15 GOVERNING VOTING PROCEDURES ON COMMITTEE BUSINESS. PRESENT RULE REQUIRES TWO-THIRD'S THOSE PRESENT AND ENTITLED TO VOTE. OF SIX POSSIBILITIES DISCUSSED IN SECRETARIAT PAPER CIRCULATED BEFORE MEETING ONLY TWO RECEIVED SIGNIFICANT SUPPORT. UNCLASSIFIED

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PAGE 03 BRUSSE 08836 081959Z

POSSIBILITY OF SIMPLE MAJORITY OF THOSE PRESENT AND ENTITLED TO VOTE CARRIED BY VOTE OF 20 (U.S.) - 8 - 13. POSSIBILITY OF SIMPLE MAJORITY THOSE PRESENT AND VOTING WITH ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENT OF ONE-THIRD THOSE PRESENT AND ENTITLED TO VOTE TO CAST AN AFFIRMATIVE VOTE CARRIED BY VOTE 29 - 12 (U.S.). PROPOSAL STILL MUST BE PUT TO FORMAL VOTE WHEN AND IF NEW RULE 20 ADOPTED.

5. PTC APPROVED CONTINUED WORK ON ENFORCEMENT AND SCHEDULED NEXT MEETING WORKING PARTY ON ENFORCEMENT FOR WEEK OF OCTOBER 2, 1978. NEW TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR WORKING PARTY ADOPTED AS PROPOSED IN REPORT OF WORKING PARTY'S SEVENTH MEETING. THEY INCLUDE CONTINUED WORK ON SYSTEM OF INFORMATION EXCHANGE, IMPLEMENTATION OF NAIROBI CONVENTION ON MUTUAL ASSISTANCE, AND ENFORCEMENT SEMINARS WITH PRIORITY FOR TECHNICAL AIDS IN DETECTING SMUGGLED DRUGS AND OTHER CONTRABAND. COMMITTEE ALSO APPROVED NEW TERMS REFERENCE AND WORK PROGRAM AS PROPOSED IN REPORT OF SEVENTH MEETING WORKING PARTY ON CUSTOMS APPLICATIONS OF COMPUTERS.

6. OTHER ITEMS ON AGENDA HANDLED ROUTINELY IN SUBSTANTIAL

ACCORDANCE WITH U.S. POSITIONS.

7. CURRENT VICE CHAIRMAN, M. BENHANZA (ALGERIA), ELECTED
CHAIRMAN AND US DEL D. P. BANOWETZ ELECTED NEW VICE CHAIR-
MAN FOR 1978-79 SESSIONS PTC. CHAMBERS

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Reason:
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TAGS: ETRD, OCON, BE, CCC
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